

The Southwester

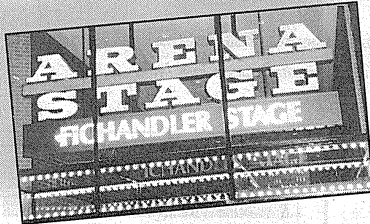
A Monthly Non-Profit Publication of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, Inc.

December 1998

SERVING SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON, D.C.

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"Thunder Knocking At The Door" Wows Southwester Supporters



A standing ovation greeted the Arena Stage cast of "Thunder Knocking At The Door" two weeks ago when the Southwester sold tickets to the musical as a fundraiser. The cast and Arena artistic director Molly Smith graciously welcomed friends of the Southwester for a wine and dessert reception after the per-

formance.

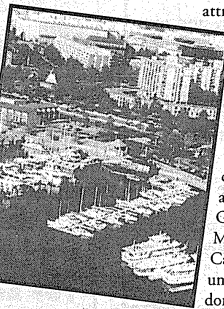
The Fundraising Committee, Cathy Wallace, Herb Holmes and Beverly Stroud, worked very hard and made the evening a rousing success.

(P.S. - A special "thanks" goes to Hogates, Odyssey Cruises, and Phillips Flagship for the delicious desserts and to Cap Liquors for the beverages). Photos on page 7. ■

A Secret No Longer?

FSNG Introduces Surprising Southwest

A full-color promotional brochure introducing our waterfront location and its attractions—Washington's best-kept secret—is now available for distribution by area owners and realty agents. Surprising Southwest Washington is a project of the Fourth Street Neighborhood Group and features condos and co-ops between M and P Streets.



A photo of the Tidal Basin with cherry blossoms in full bloom opens into a collage of the waterfront, fireworks and other scenes. The center spread features pictures of the individual complexes, basic descriptive data on their locations, make-up and amenities, and informational telephone numbers. Also included are listings of "walking distance"

attractions, schools and other area attributes.

Copies are available from management offices of the participating communities and Group members. Costs were underwritten by the communities, based on size, and by Pardoe Real Estate Group.

Members of the Group are from Carrollburg—a Condominium, Carrollburg Square Condominium, Edgewater, Harbour Square Co-Operative, River Park Mutual Homes, Riverside Condominium, Tiber Island Condominium and Tiber Island Cooperative. They meet monthly to discuss area challenges including security, determine issues to refer to their respective Boards of Directors, and undertake projects such as its three annual yard sales. ■

Do Welfare-to-Work Programs Work?

Following vigorous debate on Capitol Hill, TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) replaced what was formerly called "welfare" several years ago. Since the onset of this change, virtually every state has initiated one variation or another of "Welfare-to-Work" programming in their effort to move public assistance recipients into a life of productivity and self-sufficiency.

In the nation's capital, the federal government has played a significant role in providing work opportunities for TANF mothers. Headquartered in Southwest DC, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has already produced a number of success stories. Ms. Roberta Patrick, Employment Counselor at the Southwest Community House, has referred 20 women to EPA's program. After a number of preliminary screenings and interviews, five of these women have been hired by the EPA, and each feels happy in her new job. One has even

continued on page 6

Southwest Votes For Winners

(details on page 4)

Voter turnout in SW D.C. (43%) was heavier than citywide (39%), but Southwest residents on average voted like the rest of the city.

Mayor-elect Anthony Williams outpolled his main rival Carol Schwartz two-to-one in Southwest, as he did citywide.

In the council member at-large contest where two were to be elected, Phil Mendelson and David Catania carried Southwest, in that order, as they did citywide.

Brewer, Holmes Lost to Byrd

Southwest residents David Brewer and George Holmes were outvoted in Southwest by Westy Byrd, who won the Second Ward School Board seat.

continued on page 4

SWNA Town Meeting Scheduled on Waterside Mall and Waterfront

By Joseph Foote

At the November 30 Town Meeting of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA), John Imparato, Relocation Coordinator, U.S. Navy, will discuss the new Federal Center at the Navy Yard, where 5,000 federal employees are being relocated from Crystal City and other sites for a total of 11,000 employees. Butch Hopkins, who heads the Anacostia Economic Development Corporation, will describe how his EDC was set up and funded and how it operates. The Anacostia EDC is widely recognized as a highly promising approach to community revitalization and economic development.

SWNA wants to ensure that Southwest residents are well informed and that they are heard in key discussions and planning about the economic and social future of the city. "Many community residents express a growing concern about the city going off on its own, without hearing our voice," said SWNA President Margaret Feldman. "We must become actively involved in city government planning activities, and not wait for the city to tell Southwest what will be done. That's what happened in so-called 'redevelopment' in the 1950s and 1960s, and we don't want to let that happen again."

continued on page 5



Come One Come All!!

**Albert "Butch" Hopkins,
Anacostia Development
Corporation and John
Imparato of The U.S. Navy
Relocation Center will
speak at the Southwest
Neighborhood Assembly
Meeting on Monday,
November 30th at 7:30
pm, at St. Matthew's
Church, 3rd & M STs.**

Happy Holidays!

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Southwest Community Calendar

November 1998 - January 1999

Nov 21	Saturday	Komen Toastmasters Club 10am - Southwest Branch Library Wesley Place and K Street, SW
Nov 24	Tuesday	Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service of Southwest 7pm - Ministerial Association St. Dominics Church 630 E Street, SW
Nov 24	Tuesday	Fil-Am Toastmasters Club 6:45pm - Southwest Branch Library Wesley Place and K St., SW
Nov 30	Monday	Southwest Neighborhood Assembly 7:30pm - General Meeting St. Matthews Lutheran Church 222 M Street, SW
Dec. 1	Tuesday	First District MPD Citizens Advisory Council 7:00pm - First District Headquarters 415 Fourth Street, SW
Dec. 1	Tuesday	World AIDS Day Program 7:30pm - Westminster Presbyterian Church 400 Eye Street, SW
Dec. 5	Saturday	Komen Toastmasters Club 10am - Southwest Branch Library Wesley Place and K Street, SW
Dec. 5	Saturday	Festival of Lights 6pm - Southwest Waterfront between 600 - 1000 Water Street, SW
Dec. 6	Sunday	Christmas Celebration Concert 4pm - St. Matthews Lutheran Church 222 M Street, SW
Dec. 7	Monday	Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Board 7pm - SWNA Office Waterside Mall 401 M Street, SW
Dec. 8	Tuesday	Fil-Am Toastmasters Club 6:45pm - Southwest Branch Library Wesley Place and K Street, SW
Dec. 12	Saturday	Rummage Sale and Bake Sale 9am - St. Matthews Lutheran Church 222 M Street, SW
Dec. 12	Saturday	Labyrinth Walk Open House 10am - Westminster Presbyterian Church 400 Eye Street, SW
Dec. 13	Sunday	Cantata Concert 1:30pm - Friendship Baptist Church 900 Delaware Avenue, SW
Dec. 14	Monday	Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D 7:30pm - Westminster Presbyterian Church 400 Eye Street, SW
Dec 16	Wednesday	AARP SW Waterfront Chapter #4751 Luncheon 11:30am - Pier 7 Restaurant 650 Water Street, SW
Dec. 16	Wednesday	SW Chamber Music 7:30pm - St. Augustine's Episcopal Church Sixth St. & Maine Ave., SW
Dec. 19	Saturday	Komen Toastmasters Club 10am - Southwest Branch Library Wesley Place and K Street, SW
Dec 22	Tuesday	Fil-Am Toastmasters Club 6:45pm - Southwest Branch Library Wesley Place and K St., SW
Jan. 4	Monday	Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Board 7pm - SWNA Office Waterside Mall 401 M Street, SW
Jan. 11	Monday	Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D 7:30pm - Westminster Presbyterian Church 400 Eye Street, SW
Jan. 20	Wednesday	AARP SW Waterfront Chapter #4751 12:00 noon - St. Matthews Lutheran Church 222 M St., SW

(Please submit calendar items by the second week in January to C.W. Hargrave (202) 554-8284.)

The following are the guidelines for publication in *The Southwester*:

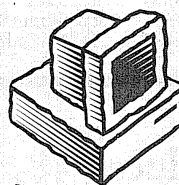
The paper serves as a community bulletin board as well as a vehicle for news stories. Occasional articles pertinent to the city will be printed. Opinion letters should be addressed to *Letters to The Editor*. Contributions written by community residents are welcome. Articles should be well written and answer the five newspaper questions: Who, What, Where, When and How. Ads will be accepted only from paying customers, but may be rejected if the contents are of questionable taste.

The editor makes the final decision as to what appears in the paper.

Two 1998 Scholarship Recipients



Jaymal Carroll, a sophomore at Frostburg State and Nakia Edelin, a sophomore at UDC.



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Drop off your stories on diskette with photos by Jan. 6, in the box behind the counter at the SW Library, 3rd & I SW.

E-mail text to: carjim@erols.com

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The objective of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, a.k.a. SWNA is: to improve the quality of life for all residents of the Southwest; to open to every Southwest resident the wide cultural horizon of modern urban living; to help create rich and equal social, educational and economic opportunities for every boy and girl of the Southwest; to assist in providing the opportunity for gainful employment for every adult resident and to promote development of the aesthetic potential of the Southwest. These objectives shall be pursued without regard to the social, economic and racial barriers that have divided cities in the past.

WWA Announces 1998 Festival of Lights

Washington Waterfront Association announces the 10th annual Festival of Lights, to be held on the Washington Channel waterfront. This year's festival begins on Saturday, December 5, at 6:00 p.m. Beautifully lighted boats from local marinas and Potomac River yacht clubs will sail from the Capital Yacht Club to the 14th Street bridge. The D.C. fire patrol boat John H. Glenn with Santa Claus at the helm, will lead the contingent as they proceed up and down the Channel.

The public is invited to view this spectacle either from the windows of one of the waterfront restaurants or from 600 to 1000 Water Street. The Southwest waterfront is accessible from Metro's Green Line (Waterside Mall) or Orange/Blue/Yellow (L'Enfant Plaza).

Cash and assorted prizes, including special cruises, restaurant meals, and theater tickets, donated by members of WWA, will be awarded to those boats deemed by a special panel of judges to be the best decorated.

On Sunday 13, starting at 5:00 p.m., a "Pier of Lights" competition for several categories of best-decorated boats will be held. It's open to all boats in the Capital Yacht Club and Gangplank Marina slips. To enter, page Mark Viehoever at 202/886-3556 or call Ruth Koetter, CYC secretary, at 202/488-8110. For more information contact Phyllis Welsh at 202/484-1871. ■

FEEDBACK

What You Said You Want...(So Far)

Now that thousands of copies of the Urban Land Institute (ULI) Report have been distributed throughout Southwest, the name of the game is "FEEDBACK." The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA) is trying very hard to find out which of the ULI Recommendations you, the community, approve of — which ones you want SWNA to fight for.

The first formal attempt to take your pulse was made at the last SWNA meeting on October 26th. The audience was divided into small groups, under the capable leadership of Charlotte Brooks. Each group chose a recorder who wrote down the participants' reactions to the recommendations. Then Ms. Brooks took the recorders' notes, transferred them to poster-sized sheets of paper, and compared and contrasted the conclusions of each group.

4th Street was the hot topic. Almost every Southwester has an opinion about the ULI recommendation for reuniting the two halves of 4th St. A sample includes:

■ Opening 4th Street will be good for the community but bad for traffic.

■ The impact of opening 4th Street must be considered—is it a mechanism for community-based organization, funding, and consideration of the Northside of Waterside Mall?

■ Study the effects on transportation, traffic patterns, pedestrians.

■ Open 4th Street as a pedestrian mall with a variety of shops, a police kiosk and access to parking; shops and stores for diverse economic groups—a movie theater, a bowling alley, an arcade, for example.

Some said the report was too vague and general; more information is needed:

■ We need better parking and access to parking (in Mall and Waterfront areas) and to humanize retail and public spaces.

There was concern for Arena Stage which needs more parking.

■ The whole area should be developed with cafes, small businesses, and mixed use retail.

■ Give us a walkway to Haines Point and play space for children—a gym. And one lonely voice wanted to do away with the fishmarket, altogether.

Then there were the "quality of life" issues:

Traffic safety, especially on 4th Street; better support for schools in the neighborhood, both regular and charter; before- and after-school care because there are too many unsupervised children; better security—more foot patrols as well as a police substation.

The feasibility of public housing ownership should be examined. How many of the present residents want it?

■ We should hold a conference with HUD and

Mr. Gilmore.

■ explore mixed income housing and more diversity.

■ A bicycle rental in the Mall, run by youth with police supervision would make it possible to ride bikes to and from Waterside Mall.

■ Job training and employment need resources.

Many issues need to be resolved. And until there is a firm consensus on what the community wants, SWNA will keep listening.

Another way of getting feedback is tabulating the answers to the questionnaire that has been in circulation ever since the ULI Report was released. The top three favorites in this order are: reuniting 4th Street; forming a Southwest Development Corporation; and creating a festive Waterfront Marketplace. But these are only preliminary findings. We've reprinted the questionnaire in this issue. Please fill in your preferences and mail it back. Remember feedback is the name of the game—and SWNA WANTS YOURS! ■



Urban Land Institute Questionnaire

(Please number your preferences (1-7) among the 14 ULI recommendations. SWNA will tabulate

results and urge public officials to use them as a guide. Mail to

SWNA, P.O. Box 70792, Washington, DC 20024.)

___ Reuniting the two halves of 4th St. by opening up Waterside Mall as a Main Street retail center.

___ On the Waterfront, a festive marketplace with restaurants, stores, entertainment and pedestrian promenade.

___ More convenient, safe parking

___ Bold new initiatives for jobs, education, economic development

___ 95 to 175 units of new, market-rate housing targeted to younger adults

___ A program to renovate and remix public housing and to encourage home ownership.

___ To improve safety, foot patrols and community watch programs

___ New roads and pedestrian paths to link Southwest to the monuments, museums and downtown

___ Historic markers and signage to point out the virtues of the neighborhood

___ Free Metro passes to introduce the new SW; water taxis linking Southwest with the other waterfront communities.

___ Shuttle buses between Southwest, the Mall, Pennsylvania Ave., the Navy Yard

___ A standard of architectural excellence for future new construction.

___ A new identity and marketing initiative for Southwest.

___ A locally based public benefit corporation for marketing strategies, managing parking areas; creating and managing a neighborhood assistance fund.

Are Police the Enemy?

Officers recently transferred to the First District police headquarters at 415 4th St. SW have shown snappy responses to calls from crime victims in a way that has surprised some Southwest residents.

At 9:20 a.m. on a Monday late in October a Delaware Avenue man was accosted by two criminals who demanded his money. He gave them some loose bills, but one of the criminals grabbed his wrist and was about to grope for his wallet when a passerby interrupted the action.

The two criminals sauntered off and the victim, Officer David Craig invited the victim to tour the neighborhood in his cruiser to see if the criminals could be seen on the street. A 45-minute ride in the cruiser led to no suspects and Officer Craig took the victim back home. Not stopping there, Officer Craig returned a half-

hour later with a suspect to see if the victim would identify him. The suspect did not resemble either of the criminals, so was released.

On Nov. 11th just after dark a man walking his dog at the east end of G St. SW was asked by an excited neighbor if he had seen men breaking into his car. "When?" asked the man with the dog. "Right now!" answered the neighbor. The two went back to a parking area to search for the suspects. "Did you call the police?" the neighbor was asked. He answered, "My wife has just called." As the two men began looking for the culprits two police cruisers arrived.

The police and two men continued to look. Three more cruisers arrived. Two suspects were caught hiding among the cars and arrested.

This fast police reaction was somewhat beyond belief for a woman living in the 700 block of Delaware when she found at midnight a lock-picking tool on her doorstep and figured

that her house had been a burglar's target. She had an armful of shopping packages, unloaded them, chatted with a contract guard about the incident, but didn't call the police. "I didn't want to stay up till 3 a.m., waiting for them to come," she told her condo manager the next day when she showed him the lock-picking tool.

These and other crimes and police actions are set for discussion at a future meeting of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly. The Assembly has activated a safety committee that is building a neighborhood watch organization, working to re-establish an Orange Hat neighborhood patrol and contacting other DC neighborhoods to get information on how crime was cut by citizen action in cooperation with police.

During one discussion staged by the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly board, one person said that the police are the enemy, that call-

ing them is futile; and that there have been incidents of police brutality in the Southwest area. Commander Kim Dine, recently transferred into the First District, which includes the Southwest, told the Southwester that people with complaints about police action should contact him at 727-4586. He said he is interested in answering such complaints and, if justified, he will do what's necessary to prevent them from recurring.

The Assembly's safety committee is in contact with Greenleaf Gardens and James Creek residents in organizing neighborhood crime watchers and discussing with them police action. The facts in this report were gathered by the Assembly's safety committee. ■

Election Coverage *contd from page 1*

Following are the results of the Nov. 3 election in the three voting precincts located in Southwest D.C. (within zipcode 20024) (write-ins and minor candidates are omitted):

Precinct 127 - all of Southwest south of M St. SW (The polling place is at St. Matthews Lutheran Church, 222 M St. SW)

Precinct 128 - North of M St. SW; East of 4th St. SW (The polling place is at Bowen School, 101 M St. SW)

Precinct 129 - North of M St. SW; West of 4th St. SW (The polling place is at Jefferson Jr. High - 7th and H St. SW)

	Pct. 127	Pct. 128	Pct. 129
Registered voters	3,915	1,923	1,268
Ballots cast	1,712	724	668
Congresswoman Norton	1,471	631	570
New Mayor Anthony Williams	1,099	485	423
Carol Schwartz, for Mayor	543	208	229
Linda Cropp, council chair	1,425	584	591
At-large council seat (2 to be elected)			
Phil Mendelson	805	376	358
David Catania	497	193	260
Hilda Mason	340	158	115
Beverly Wilbourn	308	120	113
At-large Board of Education seat			
Bob Artist	217	107	88
Gail Dixon (won)	314	128	110
2nd Ward Board of Education seat			
David Brewer	363	115	118
George Holmes	259	213	153
Westy Byrd (won)	657	186	245
Malcolm Lowell	125	73	56

Student Government at Anthony Bowen Sponsors Trick or Treat for UNICEF

by Evangeline Boykin

At Anthony Bowen Elementary School, the ending to this old poem does not only mean Halloween. For the past ten years, the black and gold boxes signal that the time has come to Trick or Treat for the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund - UNICEF. Anthony Bowen's Student Government Association (SGA) sponsors this effort for UNICEF. The money raised during the drive is used to help children around the world.

During the month of October, the SGA at Bowen is given the opportunity to develop and exhibit its leadership skills. By participating in this activity for UNICEF, student leaders are responsible for distributing the collection boxes; collecting the funds; and providing information on the needs to be met with the funds. Also, the SGA passes out worksheets that show what UNICEF can purchase with the funds raised if only students would give up junk food for a day. Another duty of the SGA is to advertise and

nothing in between, When the world turns black and gold then it's..." sponsor the Annual Costume Halloween Dance at Bowen. Each morning during October, student leaders informed the school of how UNICEF will meet the needs of the children of the

world. The student body at Bowen is told by student leaders over the PA system, how much help could be bought just for pennies, or candy money. Examples taken from a kit supplied by UNICEF show that \$1.00 would buy a pound of seeds for a community garden; that \$1.00 would buy enough polio vaccine for four children; that \$131 would provide a "school in a box" (a kit that includes materials needed to set up a portable school for 40 children; etc.

The 1998-99 SGA at Bowen is pleased to continue this tradition as caring citizens. By participating in this activity, students are learning to take seriously their role as global citizens; that all must join in the fight to save the lives of children; that pennies can save lives; and that young and old can help. ■

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and back.



Saturday, December 12
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Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:30PM

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All the Way Through Evening

Patrick Evans, baritone and
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WORLD AIDS DAY

Tuesday, December 1, 7:30 PM ~ Love offering
Westminster Presbyterian Church
4th at I, SW (across from Amidon) 484-7700
Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:30

US Attorney's Office Sponsors Annual Back-to-School Picnic at Amidon

by Wanda Fox, Guidance Counselor

For the past three years the United States Attorney's Office of Washington, D.C. has sponsored the Amidon/USAO Back-to-School Picnic for the students of Amidon Elementary School. The USAO begins planning this event in August of each year. This event provides the Amidon Elementary School students, teachers and volunteers an opportunity to meet, greet, and have some serious fun before they get down to the serious business of working to improve academics.

Friday, October 2, 1998 began with several dozen volunteers cooking hotdogs, stuffing piñatas, decorating and setting-up for the event. The afternoon was filled with music, dancing, fresh-popped corn, hot dogs, drinks, cotton candy, volleyball, baseball, basketball, face-painting, piñata breakings and balloon sculpting. Also, professional racecars and drivers were there to help us learn about drug awareness and personal safety. The volunteers met with their tutors and mentees to begin planning their new school year working relationships. The day truly inspired children and adults alike to get the year going with full-speed ahead! ■

SWNA Town Meeting *contd from page 1*

Also, distribution has begun of the Urban Land Institute (ULI) report, Southwest Washington, D.C., subtitled "A Strategy for Revitalizing Waterside Mall and the Waterfront." The 60-page report proposes converting Waterside Mall into a Town Center, reopening 4th Street, and other bold moves. Residents can obtain a free copy at the Southwest Branch Public Library or from the SWNA office in the northeast wing of Waterside Mall.

"Every resident of Southwest should read this report," said Judith Chayes Neiman, co-chair of the Waterside-Waterfront Task Force. "This begins our second stage of citizen activity, which is to develop the community's own plan." The first stage consisted of commissioning the ULI report in light of Environmental Protection Agency plans to vacate Waterside Mall.

Several Southwest residents attended the citywide Economic Summit, held November 12. Control Board Chair Alice Rivlin, Mayor-elect Anthony Williams, and Chief Financial Officer Camille Barnett, among many others, spoke. Economic revitalization grants totaling \$75 million were announced, and Imperato said the grant for the Navy Yard area would include work on M Street and Maine Avenue as far up river as the fish boats. ■

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River Park Friends of Southwest Washington, D.C.

By Coralie Farlee

River Park Friends has been organized to enhance, promote, support, and supplement charitable community development and educational activities in Southwest Washington, D.C. Some specific examples of the organization's goals include projects to enhance the neighborhood's physical environment, beauty, and public safety; educational activities, including scholarships for deserving youth; education and information about the cooperative housing movement; support for home health care, home-maker and shopping services for senior residents; and studies of and education about the Southwest Washington, D.C. neighborhood and its history. River Park Friends will not conduct its own programs, but will provide funds to support and supplement activities in Southwest. Donations to the Friends are tax exempt.

The River Park Friends is independent of River Park Mutual Homes, Inc., a Southwest

cooperative housing community. However, members of River Park Mutual Homes established the Friends and will administer its activities. All donors to the corporation become members of River Park Friends. All members of the corporation are eligible to nominate and to vote for officers, to become involved in setting priorities, and to attend annual meetings.

Start up funding is needed now. Appropriate projects are being identified so that the Friends can begin supporting projects beginning in 1999. Donors of at least \$25.00 during 1998 will be considered Founding Members, but donations at any level are welcome. Donors may also want to indicate in their wills their desire to leave a certain portion of their estate to River Park Friends.

To send a donation, please make out your check to "River Park Friends," and send it to 389 O Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20024. For more information, call (202) 554-4407, or 863-2029. ■

Welfare-to-Work cont'd from page 1

left public housing and purchased a house!

The women who were interviewed for this article, Monique Patrick and Joyce Patrick, explained that a great deal of help - in the form of training programs, GED programs, a mentor and a job coach are part of the package. While having all of this on-the-job training, they are able to work hard in their new GS-1 positions. They have the opportunity of being in the work/training program for three years and then automatically becoming Career Conditional. If they want to leave the program prior to the end of the three years, they can do so & are eligible to take the Civil Service Exam. While in the program, they receive childcare, bus tokens, and a metro card. Until their salaries exceed family size, they retain Medicaid.

Do welfare-to-work programs work? It's far

too early to form any firm conclusions. This is a simple question with a complicated answer: many researchers and TANF administrators have opined that 20% of the TANF population will quickly find jobs, another 20% will remain in a perpetual state of dependence, leaving the remaining 60% in the formidable "hard-to-place" category. What happens to this last group will most likely determine the success or failure of welfare-to-work programs nationally.

For some former welfare recipients, welfare-to-work programs have opened new doors and opportunities that most Americans merely take for granted. If you know a TANF recipient who is interested in moving from "welfare" to work, have her (or him) contact Ms. Patrick at the Southwest Community House at 202/488-7210. ■

Benjamin Banneker

In *The Southwester* dated May 1996 there was a story about an organization's attempt to get recognition for Benjamin Banneker. After more than 2 years, that recognition has arrived. In the month of October, Congress passed bill H.R. 3499. In the beginning of November, it was signed into law by President Clinton. It was introduced by the Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton, the Commemorative Works Act legislation gives legal authority to erect a monument in the nation's capital honoring the contributions of America's First Black Man of Science.

The proposed site of the Benjamin Banneker Memorial is at the current Benjamin Banneker Overlook Park at the end of the L'Enfant corridor, 10th & Banneker Circle - here in southwest. The group, started by Peggy Seats as the Washington Interdependence Council, W.I.C., has been working to establish a more suitable monument for Mr. Banneker. They would like to upgrade the present site to a "tourist friendly" memorial.

They envision improving the lovely panoramic setting of the park by adding cement and brick masonry work, as needed and adding design enhancements to the circular area, including a bas relief sculpture offering vignettes of Mr. Banneker's life inside the wall of the sculpture. The preliminary concept design calls for a larger than life statue of Mr. Banneker on an eight-foot base. "It should be noted," Ms. Seats adds, "all memorial designs have to receive the final approval of the National Capital Planning Commission and the Fine Arts Commission before construction begins."

In the report issued by the Urban Land Institute, the distinguished panel wrote that the monument "deserves better access and more prominence." W.I.C. certainly agrees with that. The man responsible for our beautiful city deserves to be recognized.

Persons wishing to become involved in the memorial, either by giving time or money, should contact the W.I.C. at 202/387-3380. ■

AIDS Quilt Panels At Westminster, Week of Dec. 1

Huge panels from the AIDS quilt which has been displayed at the Ellipse in Washington, will hang at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 Eye St. SW during the week of World AIDS Day, Tues. Dec. 1.

"All the Way Through Evening," a liturgical event of scripture, song, story, and poetry, will be held on that day at 7:30 p.m. at the church. Baritone, Patrick Evans, and pianist, Julie Nishimura, have incorporated music from the AIDS Quilt Songbook with laments, psalms, and the poetry of Walt Whitman, to make a moving appeal to people of faith and all people of compassion. This event is open to the public. A freewill offering will be received. ■

SW News

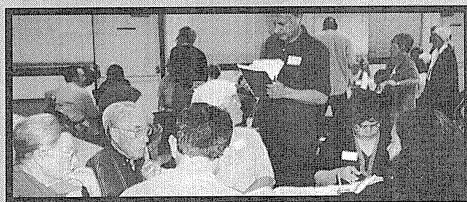
Pastor Barron Maberry of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 3rd at M, SW, will be retiring at the end of the year after 5 years of ministry here.

His warm witness and wit will be missed not only by his congregation but by all Southwesters who know him...

Gottlieb Simon, Executive Director of ANC2D, reports that the ANC office has been moved from Westminster Presbyterian Church to an interim location at the SWNA office in Waterside Mall. Public meetings will continue to be held at Westminster...

Toys for Tots will be collected at St. Vincent's (S. Capitol at M St, SE) on Sunday, December 13. ■

Discussion groups talking about the ULI Report at the SWNA Meeting on October 26th





Marva Nicks as *Glory Dupree* and **Peter Jay Fernandez** as *Marvell Thunder*

"Thunder Knocking"



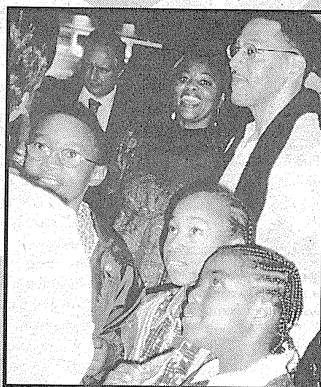
Terry Barrell as *Good Sister Dupree*



Beverly Stroud, left, and **Cathy Wallace** distributed tickets at the *Arena Stage* fundraiser



Molly Smith, fourth from the left, with cast and staff members for "Thunder"



Children attending the musical, talk to performers



Molly Smith, left, talks to **Wallace Babington**, theatre critic for *The Southwester*.

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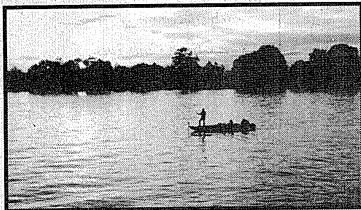
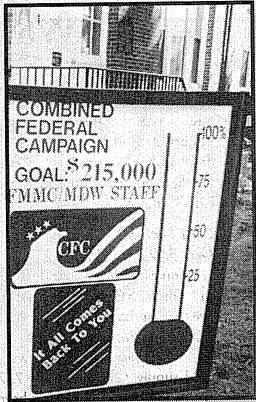
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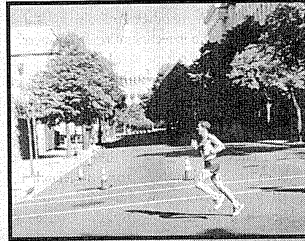
Southwest Photos



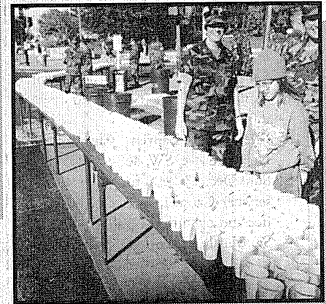
Fishing off the SW Waterfront



A bagpiper prepares for his part in a memorial service at Westminster Presbyterian Church on Eye Street SW



Runners in the Marine Corps Marathon run along "C" Street S. W. past the Capitol Building last month



Along Independence Avenue SW cups of water await thousands of Marine Corps marathon runners due in a few minutes.

Amidon Students Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month

by Rose Marie Vargas



Essay Winners: (left to right) Sean Fairley, Fourth Grade, Andrika McConnell and Camille Holman, Sixth Grade students won piñata celebrations for their classes.



Simon Contreras, Dance Director from Arlington, VA. Public Schools and **Mrs. Pauline Hamlette**, Principal

To celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, Amidon Elementary School participated in numerous multi-cultural activities, allowing the students to learn about and respect each other's rich cultures. Amidon School has students from Central America and Mexico.

Students received a deeper understanding of Hispanic culture by learning Spanish words that celebrate the accomplishments of Hispanic personalities.

Mr. Simon Contreras, Spanish instructor and dance director, brought his Arlington, Virginia, high school students to perform Latin dances. A major component of the program included the dancing participation of Mrs. Pauline Hamlette, principal, and a group of students.

To finalize the month-long activities, students participated in an essay-writing contest. Three students won a piñata celebration for their respective classes. The winners were Sean Fairley, fourth grade, and Andrika McConnell and Camille Holman, sixth grade. Ms. M.A. Johnson's class won a piñata for their art on Hispanic culture.

Amidon students receive regular instruction by a French teacher and a Spanish teacher. All the grades get French. The second graders have regular Spanish classes in continuation of a program which started when they were 4 years old. ■

continued on page 11

What are you weighting for?

Make a pre-New Year commitment to fun and fitness beginning December 2. Wednesdays 7:15 PM ~ Saturdays 10 AM
Month of December FREE!

Each session is one hour of multi-level, low-impact aerobics, body shaping and abdominal work.



Instructor: **Yummy Tyler**, former NBA and USFL cheerleader, Miss Fitness DC, internationally certified, 20 years of experience as an aerobics instructor, fitness specialist, personal trainer and motivational speaker.

A ministry of Westminster Presbyterian
4th & I St SW (across from Amidon) 484-7700
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:30PM

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CLASSIFIED

Odyssey Cruises is now hiring for all restaurant positions. Apply in person. We are located at Gangplank Marina, 600 Water Street, S. W.

December at Southwest Churches

- **Riverside Baptist**, 7th and "I" St. SW, 554-4330.
- **Fri. Dec. 18, 6:30 pm** - Christmas caroling and open house. - In the parking lot next to the church - Cider & goodies - all ages.
- **Sun. Dec. 20 11am** - Vivaldi's Gloria, by the church choir. Free and open to the public.
- **Friendship Baptist Church**, 900 Delaware Ave. SW, 863-9014.
- **Sun. Dec. 13, 1:30 pm** (after morning service) Cantata, by the senior choir, free and open to the public.
- **St. Matthews Lutheran Church**, 222 M St. SW 484-3189.
- **Sun. Dec. 6, 4 pm** - Gospel choir concert by Theron Johnson. Free will offering.
- **Sat. Dec. 12, 10am - 2 pm** - Rummage Sale & bake sale.
- **Westminster Presbyterian Church**, Thurs. Dec. 24, 7:30 pm CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE. Candlelight with carols. Children will use props and costumes to retell the Christmas story.
- **St. Vincent de Paul** is having a "Toys for Tots" Fashion Show on Sunday December 13th at 4 pm in the Church Hall, South Capitol & M Streets, SE. Admission is one NEW wrapped toy or game.
- **St. Augustine's Episcopal Church**, 6th and M Streets - Thanksgiving is the deadline for ordering boxes of oranges and grapefruit. Deliveries are the week before Christmas. Call the church at 554-3222. ■

Life Cycle

We wish a speedy recovery to **Charlotte Brooks**. She led the SWNA Group Dynamics Meeting in October and is an active SWNA member. And also to **Sandi Schwarz** who is recuperating from successful by-pass surgery.

Madeline E. Bridges passed away on Tuesday, October 13, 1998 after a long illness. On Friday, October 16, members and friends of Christ Church in SW Washington said farewell to her. Madeline Bridges was born in Brooklyn, New York, on March 16, 1929. She came to Washington at an early age. A graduate from Strayer College in Business Administration and Hospital and Health Care, she worked for the DC Government, both at DC General Hospital and in alcohol and drug abuse programs.

Dora R. Evers passed away on Saturday, November 7, 1998 after a long illness. Graveside services were held on Tuesday, November 10 at Mount Lebanon Cemetery.

Born in Lithuania, she was a long-time resident of SW Washington, and while in the area, she was a member of Temple Micah. Later she moved to Rockville to an assisted living facility.

Marguerite Gilstrap died on November 3, 1998 of kidney failure. Born in St. Paul, Arkansas, in 1907, she was a founding member of the River Park Cooperative in SW Washington. A Memorial Service, a celebration of Marguerite Gilstrap's life, will be held on Saturday, March 13, 1999 at 10:00 a.m. in the South Commons Room at River Park, 1311 Delaware Avenue, SW A graduate of the University of Arkansas, she was a speech writer for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

If you have birth, wedding or death notices in SW Washington and would like them to be known in the area through our newspaper, please call Miguel Frankenfeld at (202)554-6647. ■

Southwest Library News

Glove & Mitten Tree

Donate gloves and mittens to decorate a tree at the Southwest Branch Library anytime during December. Children and adult sizes are welcome, to warm hands that otherwise would be bare in the cold weather.

Used book sale Thurs.

Dec. 3, 9 am - 3 pm

Come to the Waterside Mall at M and 4th St. SW to pick up an inexpensive copy of that book you meant to read. Bring your donations of used books to the SW library so the sale will have a good supply. Call the library 727-1382. Proceeds of recent book sales have added to the library's internet ability and research collection.

Mystery Book Club Tues.

Dec. 15, 7-8 pm

Join fellow mystery enthusiasts for a short discussion. For more information call 727-1382. ■

Bread & Roses Concert

Sat., Dec. 19, 7 pm

The Bread & Roses feminist singers, celebrating their 20th year, will sing a capella music by, for, and about women at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 Eye St. SW at 7 pm, Sat. Dec. 19.

Tickets are \$10 at the door. A reception follows the concert. ■

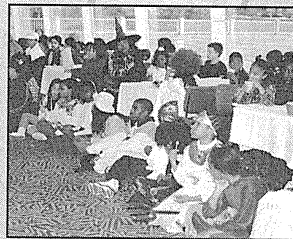
Sounds of Symmetry

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church at 222 M Street, S. W. presents the Sounds of Symmetry, "A Celebration of Christmas," for the St. Matthew's Renovation Fund. It will be on Sunday, December 6, 1998 at 4 p.m. Free-will offerings are being accepted. For information, please call (202) 484-3189. ■

A Halloween Cruise

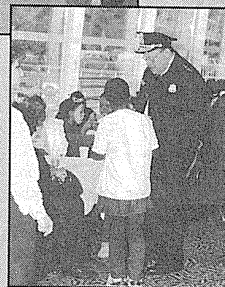
On Friday, October 30th Odyssey Cruises hosted a neighborhood Halloween cruise for 200 children in the Southwest neighborhood. Students from Anthony Bowen Elementary School and Amidon Elementary School arrived dressed in their Halloween costumes, showing off a wonderful assortment of witches, clowns, scary monsters, and other colorful characters as they paraded around the ship's outside deck. The cruise began with a presentation from police chief Charles H. Ramsey on Halloween trick-or-treating safety tips. As the party continued, the children enjoyed Halloween refreshments and danced until the ship docked.

Some lucky children won arts and craft kits for funniest, cutest, and scariest costumes. As they disembarked, the kids received trick-or-treat goodie bags from some of the Odyssey's sales staff as well as helpful safety hints and stickers from ID police officers, Sgt



Valerie Steward and Master Patrol Officer Maurice Thompson.

Next Tuesday, November 24th the Odyssey will host its Fourth Annual Thanksgiving Benefit Luncheon Cruise, serving over 500 of DC's less fortunate. Guests aboard the ship will include elderly residents from the Southwest House. ■



Photography by: Mariam Karins

Come Share Our Joy!



December 6

11 A.M. - Worship service featuring the Bell Choir of St. David's on the Hill

4 P.M. - Gospel performance by Sounds of Symmetry

December 13

6:30 P.M. - Christmas Music Sing-a-long

December 20

11 A.M. - Worship service of lessons and carols

December 24

9 P.M. - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

(All services and events are free of charge.)

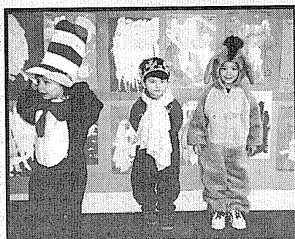
The family of **St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church** invite you and your family to share with us the joy of Christmas.

Weekly Worship Service
Sunday 11:00 a.m.

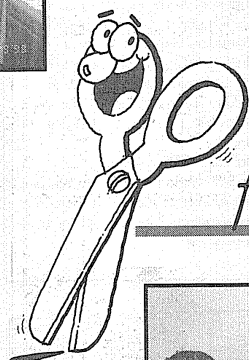
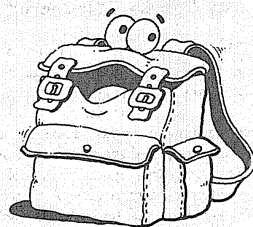
Sunday school
Sunday 10:00 a.m.

For details, contact the church at: 222 M Street, SW (202)484-3189

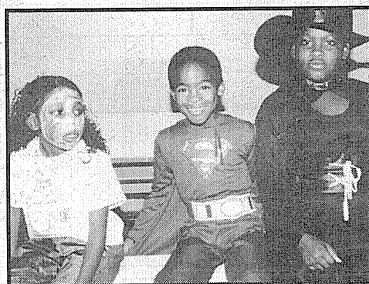
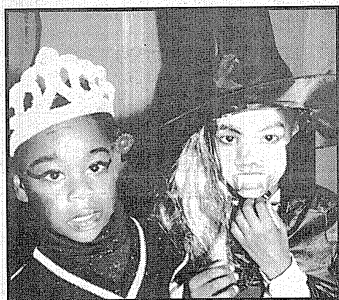




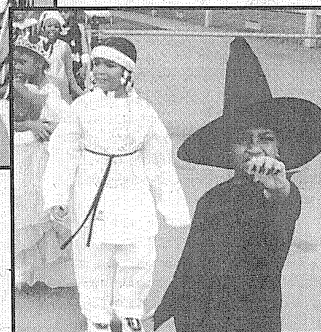
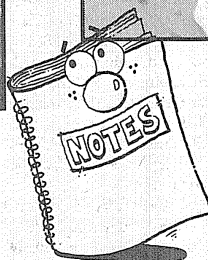
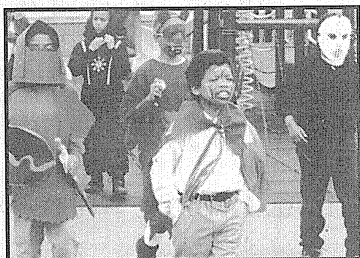
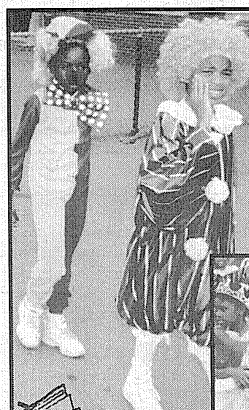
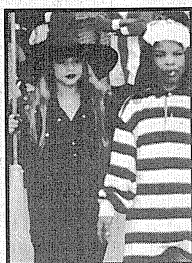
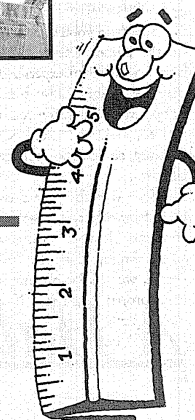
At River Park Nursery School



At Bowen School



At Amidon School



Spanish essays cont'd from page 8

The Winning Hispanic Heritage Month Essays

By Andrika I. McConnell

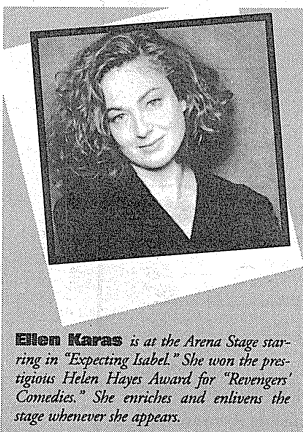
Once there was a little boy named Sammy Sosa. He was a good little boy, but all he knew how to say was olé, bravo, and arriba. His mother tried to teach him how to say paso doble, but all he told her was olé and she said it must be his favorite word. One day his daddy took him to Amidon Elementary School to see the Spanish dancers and he said "paso doble." His father was very excited, so he took him upstairs to see Señora Vargas and she taught him how to say other words such as salsa, merengue, and piñata and he thanked Señora Vargas and went home to tell his mother. He grew up to be a successful baseball player and knows every Spanish word, especially "olé Sammy!" ■

by Camille Holman

Hola! Me llamo Camille.

Los niños (the boys and girls) in my class, we were thrilled to see the wonderful dancers and they looked like they were having fun. Los vestidos (the costumes) were very beautiful and the children in my class are very good and obedient. We do all of our work and follow directions. What I earned was that the Spanish dancers are bastante bien (very good.) It would be a good experience for my class to do the piñata. Los bailadores (the dancers) were a wonderful experience for me. I think that the Spanish have lots of el toro (bull) fights. My class really learned a lot from it and enjoyed it. La escuela (the school) was flattered to see the teenagers perform their dances.

If we win the piñata contest we will do something other than work. My class is a very good class. It would be a great honor to swing at the piñata. If we do win a chance at the piñata, we will be on our best behavior and have proper etiquette. If we could have a piñata party, every one would have a great time and laugh and get blindfolded. That's why my class should get a piñata party. Adios! ■



Ellen Karas is at the Arena Stage starring in "Expecting Isabel." She won the prestigious Helen Hayes Award for "Reverend's Comedies." She enriches and enlivens the stage whenever she appears.

The Police Boys and Girls Club #4

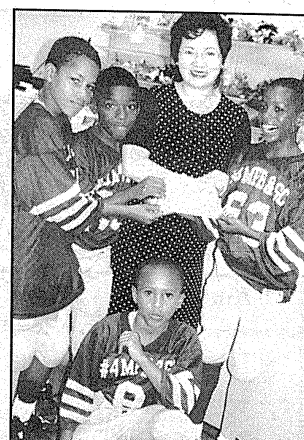
The Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls #4 know that youngsters need "fun time." That's why the club offers a variety of athletic and social activities for kids from 6 to 18. For boys and girls who enjoy leisure activities, the club offers a choice of board and ball games, jump roping, marbles, ping pong and computer games. We are now seeking donations to help supplement the up-coming basketball season. Our enrollment is up 22% and we need assistance with the purchase of 8 sets of uniforms. These Southwest/Club #4 youth members are well known at area competitions for their athletic achievements. After representing Washington, D.C. the past 7 years as champions the 10 & 12 under basketball team looks forward to returning to

Detroit, Michigan for the nationals in the Police Athletic League after playing in Jacksonville, Florida last year. All donations are tax deductible gifts and should be made payable to: No #4 Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Club. 101 M Street, S. W., Washington, D.C. 20024. Attention: Mr. Alvin E. Hudgens, Unit Director.

For information, call 202/727-4618.

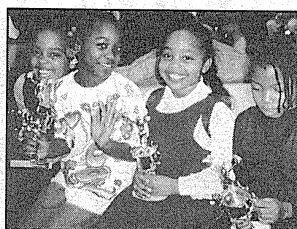
Teams:

1. Super Pee Wee (5-8) 2 teams
2. 10 & under boys (8-10) 2 teams
3. 12 & under boys (10-12) 1 team
4. 13 & under girls (10-13) 1 team
5. 14 & under boys (11-14) 1 team
6. 16 & under boys (13-16) 1 team ■



\$300 for Club No. 4.

Football players for Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Club No. 4 at Bowen School are shown at Julie's card and flower shop in Waterside Mall. They are receiving a check for \$300 for the club from Jenny Liu, proprietor. The shop held a fundraiser for the club from sales of beanie babies. ■



Cheerleaders, and Troy Bussay, Greg Head and David Simmons



Carmina Enchants Southwest Chamber Players Audience

On Wednesday evening, November 11, an enthusiastic audience was treated to an extraordinary evening focused on music of the Spanish Renaissance. Under the aegis of the Southwest Chamber Players, it was presented by a recently formed ensemble of 12 singers and instrumentalists named CARMINA. Directed by Washington harpsichordist Vera Kochanowsky, the group's program consisted of unaccompanied sacred and secular works that were by turns ethereal and hilarious.

The 16th century was Spain's Golden Age. The newly united nation had rid itself of the Moorish invaders who had held much of it for nearly 800 years; the just-discovered New World had begun to yield its riches; and a host of musicians, some trained in Italy or Flanders, found ready markets in the churches and at the court of Philip II. Though their names are virtually unknown today, Cristobal de Morales, Tomas Luis de Victoria, and their colleagues contributed works of great beauty that are performed far too infrequently.

Stunning solos from soprano Clare Michaud and bass Derek Mathis, amplified by Mathis' fine work on the vihuela, a Spanish lute, were much applauded, but the most unusual piece was the finale, a most amusing mini-opera called "Ensalada (salad) La Bomba," in which a disastrous shipwreck turns into salvation as the ship's crew gets down on its knees and prays for rescue.

The Southwest Chamber Players' next concert will be its Christmas extravaganza, scheduled for Wednesday, December 16, at 7:30. ■

- ★ Featured on BET's Dialogue on Race, we are a bi-racial community of faith
- ★ Celebrating our relationship with Howard University School of Divinity (Dr. Bledsoe is Adjunct Professor of World Religions and several students are on staff), we are connected to the world.
- ★ An inclusive church welcoming and affirming of gay and lesbian persons.

Riverside Baptist Church

Worship at 8:45 in a Gathering of Praise and Power, an intimate and warm service of praise and gospel.

Worship in our traditional 11:00 services, a blend of classic hymns and engaging sermons.

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http://members.aol.com/mi_bled/spiritus.htm

Jenny's

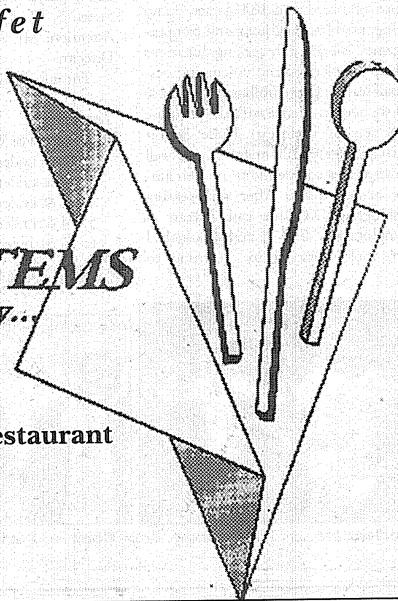
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